UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

JUN 19 2014

Darryl Smalls
Commissioner
U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Public Works
8244 Sub Base, St. Thomas
Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802-5805

Dear Mr. Smalls:

This is in response to your request for a Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) from substantive environmental review requirements, pursuant to 40 CFR Part 6, for your proposed pump station rehabilitation projects in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. The Pump Stations to be upgraded under Phase 1 are Sub-Base, Bournefield, Brass View, New Tutu Lower, and Nana Gut. The Airport Pump Station will be upgraded under Phase 2. These projects are being funded through a federal construction grant.

These six small pump stations scattered throughout St. Thomas remove sewage collected from different communities and convey wastewater to their respective wastewater treatment plant for treatment. The Nana Gut and Bournefield Pump Stations pump sewage from their designated community to the Airport Pump Station, which sends wastewater to the Red Point Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The Sub-Base Pump Station pumps sewage to the Cancryn Pump Station, which also sends flows to the Red Point WWTP. The Brass View Pump Station transfers wastewater to the Brass View WWTP. The Tutu Pump Station pumps wastewater to a transition manhole located on Mangrove Lagoon interceptor, which flows to the Mangrove Lagoon WWTP. Lastly, the Airport Pump Station pumps sewage collected from several smaller drainage areas and communities to the main interceptor that connects to the Red Point WWTP.

Due to age and normal operational deterioration, these pumping station structures, as well as electrical and mechanical equipment, require frequently recurring repairs and maintenance. Additionally, staff at some pump stations have been manually removing and reinstalling the heavy pumps without mechanical assistance, such as an overhead crane system, which is a difficult and dangerous task with a higher risk for injuries. A federal court order under the Clean Water Act requires the Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority (VIWMA) to immediately improve the structural integrity and functionality of these pump stations, which will increase their reliability and public safety. The table below describes the detailed work to be performed at each pump station under Phase 1:

Pump Station Name	Location	Install or Repair Work
Brass View	Bonne Resolution George A. Mena Scenic Drive	• Replace shut-off and check valves. • Install wet well bypass/pump around valve. • Repair ventilation and install fan with timer. • Connect electrical power to new weather-head. • Install hand rails on wet well steps. • Install additional lights outside for night work.

Sub-Base	Krum Bay Subbase Road	• Install two new submersible pumps and associated pipes, valves, and check valves. • Install an overhead crane system for removal and installation of pumps into/from wet well. • Install new control panel. • Install wet well bypass/pump around valve. • Repair weather-head. • Weatherproof generator building. • Install potable water line. • Install additional lights outside for night work. • Install emergency pump around system.
Bournefield	Cyril E. King Airport Brewers Bay Road	• Install three new submersible pumps and associated pipes, valves, and check valves. • Install an overhead crane system for removal and installation of pumps into/from wet well. • Install aluminum hatch covers to all wet well openings. • Demolish existing block wall around wet well to improve access. • Fabricate and install aluminum or stainless steel bar screens in wet wells. • Install emergency spillover connection to storm drain. • Install additional lights outside for night work. • Install sound attenuating canopy on generator. • Install odor control and drip system. • Install emergency pump around system. • Install potable water line.
New Tutu Lower	Tutu 6th Street	• Install two new dry well pumps with controls and associated pipes, valves, and check valves. • Replace force main pipeline at lower station and eliminate the upper station. • Replace electrical system and make adjustments to Water and Power Authority's electrical supply. • Install guard rails around wet well and hand rails on wet well steps. • Grade and improve access road. • Install additional lights outside for night work. • Install sound attenuating canopy on generator. • Install odor control and drip system. • Install potable water line. • Repair fence and gate. • Weatherproof control and generator rooms. • Install flood prevention gates.

Nana Gut	Charlotte Amalie West Hideaway Road	• Install two new submersible pumps and associated pipes, valves, and check valves. • Install generator/transfer switch in building. • Install rock or gabion basket barrier protection around site. • Repair ventilation and install fans with timer. • Install wet well overflow pipe. • Install additional lights outside for night work. • Install odor control and drip system. • Install potable water line.

The new ¾-inch diameter potable water lines will originate from the nearest potable water supply pipeline connection point and end at the specified pump station. Trenching will be required to install the potable water line and can be accomplished by using machinery to cut a narrow path along an existing roadway. The New Tutu (Lower) Pump Station water line will run 370 feet along an existing unnamed private road off of 6th Street. The Nana Gut Pump Station water line will run 240 feet along the existing Pump Station driveway that branches off of Hideaway Road. The Bournefield Pump Station water line will run 50 feet along the existing Route 30 and the Sub-Base Pump Station water line will run 40 feet along the existing Subbase Road.

The existing configuration of the New Tutu Pump Station consists of sewage entering the Lower Pump Station and it is pumped to the Upper Pump Station where the pumps convey the wastewater to a transition manhole. The Upper Pump Station will be eliminated as the pumps at the Lower Pump Station will be upgraded with new pumps with sufficient capacity to send flows directly to the transition manhole. This configuration will allow the Upper Pump Station to be taken offline and be demolished. Rehabilitation of the force main will consist of installing 250 feet of new 6-inch piping within the same alignment as the existing force main. The force main connection points and capacity will remain the same.

The following upgrades will be performed at the Airport Pump Station under Phase 2:

- Relocate the dry well sump pumps discharge line to eliminate dry well flooding.
- Replace the motor control center and auxiliary panels.
- Replace three pumps and motors in dry well.
- Replace six knife gate valves.
- Install pump around connection on discharge line with shut-off valve.
- Replace flow meter and check valve in yard pit.
- Install safety harness system on entry ladders for dry and wet wells.
- Rehabilitate and/or replace ventilation system of both wet wells.
- Repair or replace gas monitor alarm system for both dry and wet wells.
- Repair or replace cathodic protection system for dry well.
- Rehabilitate the general electrical system (lights, receptacles and appurtenances).
- Replace generator with sound attenuated generator unit.
- Replace fuel tank with double walled aluminum fuel tank.
- Replace well entry covers and doors.
- Weatherproof control room building.
- Install odor control/drip system.

- Install flood prevention gates.
- General maintenance including repair fencing, improve lighting, etc.

The work to be performed meets the CATEX eligibility criteria found in 6.204(a)(l)(ii). This category includes "actions relating to existing infrastructure systems (such as sewer systems, drinking water supply systems, and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems) that involve minor upgrading, or minor expansion of system capacity or rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and system components (such as the sewer collection network and treatment system; the system to collect, treat, store and distribute drinking water; and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems) or construction of new minor ancillary facilities adjacent to or on the same property as existing facilities."

The repairs do not involve a new or relocated discharge to surface or ground water, an increase in the volume or loading of pollutants to receiving water, or capacity to serve a population 30 percent greater than the existing population. Further, they are not contrary to any state or regional growth plan or strategy; and are not primarily for the purpose of future development.

Additionally, the available information you provided concerning the proposed action indicates that none of the specific criteria for not granting a CATEX, found in 40 CFR 6.204(b)(1) through (b)(10), are present. Based on our review, EPA approves the request for the CATEX. Please be reminded that EPA may revoke this CATEX if any of the following conditions occur:

-changes in the proposed action render it ineligible for exclusion,
-new evidence indicates that serious local or environmental issues exist, or
-federal, state, or local laws would be violated.

Furthermore, EPA strongly encourages project sponsors to incorporate green practices into all phases of a project, including planning, design, and construction. Such practices can promote sustainable infrastructure, support development of a "green" workforce, and reduce long-term operation and maintenance costs. In previous correspondence with you, we enclosed a copy of a fact sheet for your information that identifies a variety of recommendations that should be given consideration in projects. EPA hopes to see green practices incorporated as a standard part of projects in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

This CATEX will be available on the EPA website at http://www.epa.gov/region02/spmm/r2nepa.htm.

Should you have any questions regarding this decision, please address them to Grace Musumeci, Chief, Environmental Review Section, at the above address.

Sincerely,

Judith A. Enck
Regional Administrator

cc: May Adams Cornwall, P.E., Executive Director, WMA
Laurie Williams, Director of Engineering, WMA
James Grum, P.E., Chief Engineer, WMA

Tawana Albany Nicholas, Engineer, WMA
Jomo McClean, Chief Engineer, DPW